

Weather Forecast

Sunny today; high about 76. Clear tonight; low near 58. Cloudy with moderate temperatures tomorrow.

Temperatures today—High, 72, at 1:20 p.m.; low, 58, at 6:08 a.m. Yesterday—High, 77, at 5:06 p.m.; low, 64, at 6:40 a.m.

(Full Report on Page A-2.)

Late New York Markets, Page A-19.

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Indies Troops Scorch Earth In Dutch Path

Netherlands Troops Driving to Slice Island of Java

BULLETIN

BATAVIA, Java (AP)—Four Java towns were in flames to night as Indonesian troops, retreating on two fronts threatening their capital, adopted scorched-earth tactics before a determined Dutch Army, an Indonesian communiqué announced.

By the Associated Press

BATAVIA, Java, July 23.—Scorched-earth tactics were begun today by Indonesian Republic forces ahead of a determined Dutch Army drive to slice Java in two, a broadcast Indonesian Army communiqué announced.

At the same time official Dutch dispatches from Sumatra said irregular Indonesian soldiers of "the People's Army" in the big neighboring island of Sumatra also were applying the tactics. These dispatches said the irregulars burned more than 100 homes before evacuating the town of Arnhem, a few miles south of Dutch-held Medan. Arnhem now is in Dutch hands, the dispatches said.

(British Foreign Secretary Bevin said in London that Britain was determined to seek an end to warfare in Indonesia "at the earliest possible moment.")

India or Australia Seen Likely to Take Issue Before U. N.

By the Associated Press

LONDON, July 23.—Well-informed diplomatic sources said today that either India or Australia might ask the United Nations to intervene in the dispute between the Netherlands and the Indonesian Republic.

The complaining nation presumably would charge that the Indonesian fighting constituted a threat to world peace, these sources said. Both India and Australia, they said, have a "close interest" in the situation in Indonesia.

Diplomats here ruled out the possibility that Britain herself might appeal or that she would act as a mediator between the Dutch and Indonesians, pointing out that she would have no grounds for such action unless invited by both parties to the dispute.

(Speaking to the House of Commons, Mr. Bevin said he could not at present give an opinion on "whether the Security Council of the United Nations is the best and most appropriate means of achieving this object.")

Dutch Menace Stronghold.
An Indonesian communiqué acknowledged that Dutch troops in East Central Java were only 12 miles from the key Indonesian stronghold of Malang, and were driving southward to a town only 7 miles from the stronghold.

Other Dutch units threatened the Republican capital of Jogjakarta with a two-pronged drive. One Dutch column driving south from Semarang on the north central coast took Salatiga, key town on a highway winding 46 mountainous miles to Jogjakarta.

Just ahead of the Dutch drive on Malang, the broadcast Indonesian bulletin said, Republican forces successfully scorched the earth. Fighting was under way in the area of Lawang, 12 miles north of Malang, the communiqué added.

On Sumatra, the Dutch dispatches said, damage of at least \$200,000 was caused when Indonesians poured gasoline on Arnhem's homes and fired them. The town's police instructor barricaded himself and his men in the police barracks and fought off the Indonesian irregulars, who sought to burn the barracks building, the dispatches added.

Planes Attack Jogjakarta.
Advices from Jogjakarta said the Indonesians had imposed a nightly 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew in their capital as officials took an increasingly grave view of the military situation. The city remained calm, however, despite a bombing attack by Dutch planes at noon, the dispatch said.

A dispatch from Associated Press correspondent Hattie Jackson in (See INDONESIA, Page A-6.)

Court Fight Planned by WAC Denied 'Soldier' Benefit

By the Associated Press

BOSTON, July 23.—A court fight was developing in Massachusetts today over whether women who served in the military forces are "soldiers and sailors" in the eyes of the law.

State Attorney General Clarence A. Barnes has ruled they are. Mrs. Robert C. Wheeler of Pittsfield, who has a 40 per cent disability rating for impaired hearing—for the \$2,000 real estate tax exemption granted disabled "soldiers and sailors" in the Bay State.

Only the courts, Mr. Barnes said, can determine whether the State Legislature meant to give the benefits to women.

Mrs. Nelson said she would carry her case to the appellate tax board and to the State Supreme Court, if necessary.

Legion Proposes To Curtail Veto of Big Five

Security Council Is 'Perpetually Hung Jury,' Members of Congress Are Told in Letter

By the Associated Press

Calling the Security Council a "perpetually hung jury," the American Legion today proposed an overhaul of the United Nations Charter to curtail the Big Five veto and set up a "tyranny-proof" world police force.

Climaxing a year of study, the Legion's recommendations were forwarded in a letter to each member of Congress with this acknowledgment:

"It may not be possible or expedient to attempt to bring about changes now, but we believe they suggest a goal which must be attained in order that the United Nations becomes fully effective."

The veterans' organization contended its recommendations would lay a solid foundation for the elimination of the atomic threat. It said further they "are indispensable to bring about an adequate substitute for the grim rules of power politics."

Specifically, the Legion proposed three Charter amendments designed to:

1. Give "more effective representation of nations" on the Security Council and abolish the veto in cases of aggression "or preparation for aggression."

2. Give the Security Council "adequate powers" to prevent aggressive war by creating iron-clad international controls over atomic weapons and all other means of mass destruction.

3. Create "a powerful yet tyranny-proof" world police force.

These proposals followed closely an outcropping of congressional resolutions calling for a United Nations Charter revision conference, but while sponsors of these resolutions said they might lead to Russian withdrawal from the U. N., (See LEGION, Page A-6.)

British Ship Sinks In Harbor at Haifa After Blast, Fire

Internal Explosion Laid To Explosives Placed By Saboteurs On Cyprus

By the Associated Press

JERUSALEM, July 23.—Official sources reported today that the British ship Empire Life-guard had been sunk in Haifa harbor, presumably by saboteurs, shortly after disembarking 261 legal Jewish immigrants transported to the Holy Land from detention camps on Cyprus.

A British release disclosing the sinking said:

"The Empire Life-guard, a transport returning Jewish immigrants from Cyprus, was sunk this morning in Haifa harbor by an internal explosion after all the immigrants had disembarked."

"It is believed that a charge was placed on board while the ship was taking on the immigrants at Famagusta (a port in Cyprus)."

"No casualties have been reported so far."

Immigrants Put Ashore.
Advices from Haifa said fire had broken out aboard the Empire Life-guard shortly after she arrived in the harbor, and that the immigrants had been hurriedly put ashore.

Official sources said that 40 or 50 immigrants still were aboard the vessel when the explosion which preceded the fire occurred, but none was injured.

The ship was said to have gone down alongside the quay and to be resting half-submerged, with her keel on the bottom of the harbor.

The Empire Life-guard is a Liberty ship, which had been repeatedly used to deport illegal Jewish immigrants from Palestine to Cyprus.

The Jews disembarked from her today were part of the regular monthly quota given entry certificates after being detained at Cyprus.

4 British Injured.
Meanwhile, a continuing wave of violence, apparently fanned by the recent deportation of 4,500 Jewish immigrants intercepted while trying to enter Palestine aboard the steamer President Warfield, resulted in serious injury to four more British soldiers in Haifa.

The soldiers were injured when the military car in which they were riding struck a road mine in the Ahuzia quarter on Mount Carmel and was blown into a deep ravine.

The incident brought to eight killed and 55 wounded the toll of casualties in the last eight days.

France Is Undecided On Jews' Disposition

PARIS, July 23 (AP)—The French government apparently still was undecided today what action it would take with regard to 4,500 Jewish refugees intercepted by the British off Palestine and now reported bound for a French port.

The immigrants had sailed for Palestine from Sete, in Southern France aboard the former Chesapeake Bay steamer President Warfield, renamed Exodus of 1947.

The French said the passengers all had Colombian visas.

La Guardia Improved

NEW YORK, July 23 (AP)—Former Mayor F. H. La Guardia, who was described a week ago as "quite a sick man," has shown a "decided improvement," his physician said today.

Clayton Reaches Rome

ROME, July 23 (AP)—Undersecretary of State Clayton arrived in Rome by plane from Geneva today to confer with Italian government officials.

By Newbold Noyes, Jr.
A prim New England spinster in a little round hat told a District Court jury today why she decided in 1942 to turn over \$8,100 to Gerhart Eislser, the man who allegedly is the chief agent of international Communism in this country.

To Miss Helen R. Bryan, executive secretary of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Eislser was merely one of a group of suffering refugees from Fascist oppression, stranded in this country without funds because he was not allowed to proceed to Mexico.

(See EISLER, Page A-6.)

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Soviet Rejects Bid to Discuss Jap Peace Pact

Note to Washington Charges Unilateral Action, Radio Says

By the Associated Press

LONDON, July 23.—The Moscow radio said tonight that Soviet Russia "cannot agree" to accept a United States invitation to join with 11 powers in discussing a Japanese peace treaty August 19 in Washington.

The broadcast, heard here by the Soviet monitor, said Russia delivered a note to Washington yesterday charging the United States had acted in a "unilateral manner" and declaring that preliminary work on drafting a Japanese treaty should be undertaken by the Council of Foreign Ministers.

The note suggested that the Russian, British and Chinese ambassadors in Washington meet with a representative of the United States to decide when the Council of Foreign Ministers should be convened.

"On July 11 of this year the United States Ambassador, Gen. Bevel Smith, told V. M. Molotov, the U. S. S. R. Minister of Foreign Affairs, that the Government of the United States proposed to call on August 19 of this year a conference for the preparation of a peace treaty with Japan, comprising representatives of 11 powers, members of the Far Eastern Commission."

"At the same time the United States Government unilaterally began negotiations on this question with the governments of the remaining powers who are represented in the Far Eastern Commission."

"The 50-degree low was reported this morning just beyond Chevy Chase, Md. The latter area had a 53-degree low, while a temperature of 52 degrees was reported at Annapolis, Va."

The lowest July 23 temperature on record was 58 in 1890. The last time

House Unit Approves Granting Citizenship Rights to Kravchenko

By the Associated Press

A House Judiciary Subcommittee today approved a bill that would open the way to American citizenship for Victor A. Kravchenko, former Soviet official who has publicly renounced Communism.

The measure, which would waive provisions of law forbidding a Communist to become a citizen, still requires approval of the full committee.

Its passage by the House and Senate is improbable before the next congressional session, beginning in January.

Mr. Kravchenko, who testified before the House Un-American Activities Committee yesterday that all responsible Soviet officials in the United States are spies, told the judiciary group he fears for his life if he is not given the protection afforded American citizens.

"I can't live here one year," he said, "if you don't give me citizenship."

Served With Purchasing Board.
Mr. Kravchenko, a former Russian Army officer, also served with the Soviet Purchasing Commission in this country before splitting with the Red regime.

The proposed bill specifically would declare that Mr. Kravchenko came to the United States for permanent residence as an immigrant.

By the Lord Harry Coudert, Republican of New York and Mundt, Republican of South Dakota testified for Mr. Kravchenko and said he has rendered "enormous" service to this country.

"How do you know that he isn't a spy himself?" asked Representative Coudert, Democrat of New York.

Under careful surveillance, Mr. Mundt said Mr. Kravchenko has been under "the most careful surveillance" by police and the FBI, and has been issued a police permit to carry a gun for protection.

"By the Lord Harry Coudert, Republican of New York and Mundt, Republican of South Dakota testified for Mr. Kravchenko and said he has rendered "enormous" service to this country."

Mr. Coudert recalled that Mr. Kravchenko told the Un-American Activities Committee that Marshall Field, publisher of the Chicago Sun and New York PM, is more "dangerous" than 30 per cent of the Communists.

"I'll go as far as I can," Mr. Coudert said, "but I don't think a man who fraudulently concealed from the Communists."

Wholesale Meat Prices Fall 2 to 3 Cents in New York

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, July 23.—Wholesale meat prices fell two to three cents a pound from a week ago in the New York area, because of hot weather and consumer resistance to high prices, packing house representatives said today.

They reported carcass beef selling at 46 to 47 cents a pound, compared with around 50 cents a week ago; choice lamb at 52 cents a pound, compared with 54 cents, and mutton at 43 cents, compared with 45 and 46 cents a pound last week.

Wholesalers said retail stores reported business falling off, as some customers shied at high prices and others bought less meat because of the heat.

Youths, 15 and 16, Die In Chair for Slaying

By the Associated Press

WOODVILLE, Miss., July 23.—Two teen-age colored youths convicted of killing a white man were taken to their death early today in Mississippi's portable electric chair.

The first to die was 15-year-old James Lewis. The other was Charles Trudell, 16. Each went to his death calmly, reciting a prayer.

The two youths were convicted in February, 1946, for the pistol slaying of Harry McKee, a Mississippi lumber man from whom they took \$64.

Each youth was seated in the electric chair, he repeated after the Catholic priest's words, "O my God, I am utterly sorry for having offended Thee."

A few minutes before the execution, the Rev. Patrick Moran of Woodville told the youths he had decided it would be better for the younger Lewis to go to the chair first. The decision had been left to the priests by Sheriff Richard Whitaker. Father Moran explained to the boys that the fatal shot had been fired by Trudell and that the priests felt that the greater punishment would be suffered by the last of the two to go.

(See HOME RULE, Page A-6.)

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58-Degree Low Gives Capital Coolest July 23 in 36 Years

Mercury Down to 50 in Some Nearby Areas; Damage to Gardens or Crops Unlikely

By the Associated Press

Washington had its coolest July 23 in 36 years today as the temperature dropped to 58 degrees.

In some nearby areas, the mercury dipped to 50 degrees, and the Weather Bureau said it may go even lower tonight in exposed spots in outlying areas.

However, the forecaster insisted the cool wave would not damage gardens or crops in the Washington area. The forecast for the city was for sunshine and temperatures in the upper 70s today.

The forecaster doubted the temperature tonight would go below the 58 recorded at 6:08 a.m. today.

The 50-degree low was reported this morning just beyond Chevy Chase, Md. The latter area had a 53-degree low, while a temperature of 52 degrees was reported at Annapolis, Va."

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\$1,000,000 Airport Fire Destroys Two DC-4s

By the Associated Press

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., July 23.—Fire razed the main hangar at Rosecrans Field today and destroyed a warehouse and two DC-4 airplanes causing damage estimated at \$1,394,000.

The fire, which started in an electric motor in an overhead door in the hangar, was discovered by a guard, George Billey. He said he saw a flash of light and an alarm and then ran to the airport fire department.

Approximately half of the firefighting equipment in St. Joseph was sent to the fire. Many frame buildings were saved.

The hangar of frame construction, is located in the midst of a group of other frame buildings. Resident engineer Wilton Wilding said he previously had some trouble with the motor which started the fire.

Jorge Prado Quits Post As Envoy of Peru Here

By the Associated Press

LIMA, PERU, July 23.—The Foreign Ministry announced today that he had accepted the resignation of Jorge Prado, Peruvian Ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Prado told a reporter here he had no statement to make about his reasons for resigning. He said he plans to leave Washington soon for New York City, but that otherwise he has no permanent plans.

Informal sources said the resignation resulted from "personal differences" with Foreign Minister Enrique Garcia Sayan.

Mr. Garcia Sayan concluded an official visit to Washington yesterday and left by air for Lima, by way of Miami.

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Truman Visiting Senate For Informal Luncheon

By the Associated Press

President Truman was due at the Capitol today for an informal luncheon with former Senate colleagues.

Both Republicans and Democrats were invited to join the President at a luncheon given by Leslie L. Biffle, director of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee.

When he first took office, Mr. Truman often paid informal visits to Capitol Hill, but of late he has limited his appearances to formal occasions.

Invited guests looked forward to a social get-together, with no discussion of legislative matters.

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Five Witnesses Urge Manager and Elected Council for District

Hearing Gets Statement From Mrs. Norton Asking National Representation

By Rudolph Kauffmann II

A city manager-elected council form of government for the District set up under a congressional charter was advocated today by three prominent organizations and two men with long experience in District affairs.

All agreed in testimony before a House District Subcommittee on Home Rule that this would be the best way of giving the Capital home rule, but they differed on details of the problem.

The witnesses were Louis Brownlow, former District Commissioner; William A. Roberts, a former people's counsel; Henry Beltscher, speaking for the District Industrial Union Council; Mrs. Milton Dunn, speaking for the District of Columbia League of Women Voters; and Benjamin Sigal, president of the Washington chapter of the Americans for Democratic Action.

Mrs. Norton Dissents.
Dissenting opinion on the home rule problem was voiced by Representative Norton, Democrat, of New Jersey who was chairman of the House District Committee for seven years and sponsored national representation legislation for the District. She submitted a written statement opposing home rule and favoring only national representation for the city.

"I do not believe that there is a great deal of sentiment for strictly local suffrage, but there is definitely much sentiment for legislation which would provide representation either in the House or Senate or both," Mrs. Norton said.

"During my seven years as chairman of the District Committee, this type of suffrage received the greatest support. I believe it to be very popular at this time."

"We know that under the present system whereby members of Congress are appointed to the District Committee, these members are serving a double service. They are serving their own congressional districts and, in addition, are responsible for the District of Columbia. In many cases this latter service has been the source of a great deal of criticism from the districts which the members are elected to represent."

Dual Duties Cost Severe.
I recall one case of a very valuable member who was defeated during the time I was chairman of the District Committee because his opponent in the campaign used the argument against his reelection that he gave more time to the District of Columbia than he did to his own district. Dual service does not make for efficient service to either the District of Columbia or the congressional district a member represents, when one considers the heavy legislative and congressional load.

1,297,300 in British Forces
LONDON, July 23 (AP)—Britain's military forces contained 1,297,300 men and women as of June 30, the Secretary of State for War, F. J. Bellefleur, told the House of Commons today.

D. C. Pastor to Ask Army to Ban GI Marriages in Reich Again

By Marion Wade Campbell

Star Special Correspondent
FRANKFURT, July 23.—Fraulein-American marriages should again be forbidden in Germany and permitted in the United States only after the soldier has had a chance to "think it over at home," the Rev. Dr. G. Leslie Glenn, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, will recommend to Undersecretary of War Royall after returning to Washington next week.

Dr. Glenn left Frankfurt for Paris today after a five-week tour of Italy, Austria, Switzerland and Germany. He will arrive in Washington by plane Monday with 13 other clergymen to report on general European conditions.

Output of Ice Cream Cut by Strike Here

By the Associated Press

Eighty per cent of Washington's ice cream manufacturing stopped today as 500 members of the Ice Cream Workers' union went on strike demanding a 15 per cent increase in minimum wages.

Deliveries of ice cream already on hand also stopped because drivers, members of the Ice Cream Drivers' local of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, refused to cross picket lines.

Hit by the work stoppage were Washington's seven biggest ice cream firms: Breyer's, the Carry Ice Cream Co., Colonial, Fussell-Young, Melvern Dairies, Inc., Dairies and Washington Milk, Inc. The union is asking a 15 per cent increase from minimum wages which now are 70 cents an hour for unskilled workers and \$1.12 for skilled. A tentative agreement for an 8 per cent increase was reached by company and union negotiators on May 3, but the ratification of the union refused to ratify the agreement.

\$175,000,000 Added To Foreign Aid Funds By Senate Committee

Increased Relief Voted For U. S. Zone in Germany, Japan and Korea

The Senate Appropriations Committee today increased by \$175,000,000 the total outlay for foreign relief to help carry out the administration's foreign policy program.